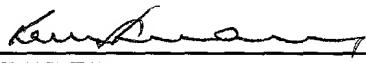


FORM PTO-1390 (Modified) (REV 11-2000) TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 010475
		U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR 09/937234	
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/AT00/00063	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE 20 March 2000	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED 22 March 1999	
TITLE OF INVENTION Hand Stamp			
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US PICHLER, Wolfgang			
Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:			
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (24) indicated below.</p> <p>4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31).</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> has been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)). a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is attached hereto. b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been previously submitted under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)) a. <input type="checkbox"/> are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been communicated by the International Bureau. c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. d. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).</p> <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409).</p> <p>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).</p>			
<p>Items 13 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <p>13. <input type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment.</p> <p>16. <input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.</p> <p>17. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>18. <input type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</p> <p>19. <input type="checkbox"/> A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825.</p> <p>20. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>21. <input type="checkbox"/> A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4).</p> <p>22. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail</p> <p>23. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information: a.) Certificate of Assignee's Small Entity Status (Faxed copy - Original to follow) b.) a Post Card Receipt</p>			

U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR 09/937234	INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/AT00/00063	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER 010475			
24. The following fees are submitted:		CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY			
BASIC NATIONAL FEE (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) - (5)) :					
<input type="checkbox"/> Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO \$1000.00 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but International Search Report prepared by the EPO or JPO \$860.00 <input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) not paid to USPTO but international search fee (37 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO \$710.00 <input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$690.00 <input type="checkbox"/> International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO and all claims satisfied provisions of PCT Article 33(1)-(4) \$100.00					
ENTER APPROPRIATE BASIC FEE AMOUNT =		# \$860.00			
Surcharge of \$130.00 for furnishing the oath or declaration later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (e)).		<input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30 # \$0.00			
CLAIMS		NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	
Total claims		6 - 20 =	#	x \$18.00	# \$0.00
Independent claims		# 1 - 3 =	0	x \$80.00	# \$0.00
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable).				<input type="checkbox"/>	# \$0.00
TOTAL OF ABOVE CALCULATIONS =				# \$860.00	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. (See 37 CFR 1.27). The fees indicated above are reduced by 1/2.				# \$430.00	
SUBTOTAL =				# \$430.00	
Processing fee of \$130.00 for furnishing the English translation later than months from the earliest claimed priority date (37 CFR 1.492 (f)).		<input type="checkbox"/> 20 <input type="checkbox"/> 30	+	# \$0.00	
TOTAL NATIONAL FEE =				# \$430.00	
Fee for recording the enclosed assignment (37 CFR 1.21(h)). The assignment must be accompanied by an appropriate cover sheet (37 CFR 3.28, 3.31) (check if applicable).		<input type="checkbox"/>	# \$0.00		
TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED =				# \$430.00	
				Amount to be: refunded	\$
				charged	\$
<p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of # \$430.00 to cover the above fees is enclosed.</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge my Deposit Account No. R# _____ in the amount of # _____ to cover the above fees. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. # _____ A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> Fees are to be charged to a credit card. WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.</p>					
<p>NOTE: Where an appropriate time limit under 37 CFR 1.494 or 1.495 has not been met, a petition to revive (37 CFR 1.137(a) or (b)) must be filed and granted to restore the application to pending status.</p>					
<p>SEND ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin-bottom: 10px;"> <p>Law Offices of Karl Hormann 86 Sparks Street Cambridge MA 02138-2216</p> <p>Tel.: (617)-491-8867 Fax: (617)-491-8877</p> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>Karl Hormann</p> <p>NAME</p> <p>26,470</p> <p>REGISTRATION NUMBER</p> <p>24 September 2001</p> <p>DATE</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p></p> <p>Karl Hormann</p> </div> </div>					

International Application No.: PCT/AT00/00063
International Filing Date: 20 March 2000
By: PICHLER, Wolfgang
For: Hand Stamp

86 Sparks Street
Cambridge MA 02138-2216
22 September 2001

Hon.
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

Box PCT

Preliminary Amendment prior to Claims Fee Calculation.

Sir:

With a view to avoiding excess claims fees otherwise due and to putting his instant International application into a condition believed to conform to U.S. patent prosecution standards as currently understood, Applicant courteously requests entry of the following amendment into his disclosure amended pursuant to Rule 46 PCT.

In the Specification:

Page 1, line 6: enter --BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.

1. Field of the Invention.--;

line 14: enter --2. The Prior Art.--;

line 27: enter --OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION.--;

line 31: after "them" place a paragraph and insert --SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.--;

page 2, line 32: insert --DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS.--;

page 3, line 10: insert --DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT.--; and

page 5, line 1: cancel "Patent Claims." and substitute --What is claimed is;-- therefor.

Page 6, line 1: cancel "Hand Stamp";

page 6, line 3: change "Abstract" to --ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE.--;

line 5: change "Hand" to -A hand-- and cancel "(5)";

line 6: cancel "(6)", "(1)" and "(3)";

line 8: cancel "(4)";

line 10: cancel "(6)" and "(5")";

line 11: cancel "(9)"; and

line 12: cancel "(2)".

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 1 - 4 and substitute therefor the following new claims:

5. (New) A hand stamp, comprising:

a handle;

a housing for forming a positioning frame opening;

a stamp platen biased into a predetermined idle position within the housing for selectively supporting a stamp impression member seated in a receptacle;

a flexible foldable bellows extending between the handle and the housing;

a stem in the bellows for connecting the handle to the stamp platen for selective movement thereof between the predetermined position and a stamping position; and

 snap-fit connection means for releasably connecting the receptacle to the platen.

6. (New) The hand stamp of claim 5, wherein the flexible bellows is formed integrally with the handle.

7. (New) The hand stamp of claim 6, wherein the handle is provided with a cap removable for rendering the stem accessible.

8. (New) The hand stamp of claim 7, wherein the stem is provided with threaded means for changing the predetermined idle position of the stamp platen.

9. (New) The hand stamp of claim 5, wherein the receptacle is initially releasably retained in the positioning frame opening and adapted to be engaged by the stamp platen upon movement thereof towards the stamping position.

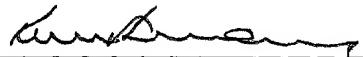
10. (New) The hand stamp of claim 9, wherein the receptacle is provided with at least one separator for dividing the impression member into a plurality of sections.

11. (New) The hand stamp of claim 5, wherein the receptacle is initially provided in a transport case having a removable cap facing the impression member.

Remarks.

A substitute specification based upon the specification and claims amended under Rule 46 PCT and including the amendment herein set forth is being submitted herewith. No new matter has been entered into the substitute specification.

Respectfully submitted,



Karl Hormann
Registration No.: 26,470

Area Code (617)-491-8867

International Application No.: PCT/AT00/00063
International Filing Date: 20 March 2000
By: PICHLER, Wolfgang
For: Hand Stamp

Specification, Claims and Abstract
Including Changes of Applicant's
Preliminary Amendment

5

Hand Stamp

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION.

1. Field of the Invention.

10 The invention relates to a hand stamp having a handle which is connected, and moveable relative, to a housing for a stamp platen bracket forming a support frame, by way of a shaft so that the stamp platen bracket may be moved by a vertically adjustable stem and against the force of a spring from its idle position into a printing position, the handle being provided
15 with a removable cap permitting access to the adjustable stem und the stamp impression member being arranged on the stamp platen by a receptacle.

2. The Prior Art.

20 In a stamp of this kind known from U.S. Patent 5,111,745 the effective length of the stem may be adjusted by a threaded portion of the shaft to adjust the stamp to stamp impression members of different heights. Similar structures are known from German laid-open specification OS 26 15 090 and U.S. Patent 5,377,599. In another variant known from British patent
25 2,226,276, there is provided a relatively complicated mechanism which may be actuated by the handle for adjusting the stamp housing.

The essential drawback of these relatively complex known structures resides in the fact that it is difficult to mount stamp platens of different
30 thicknesses since it is necessary to affix adhesively in the stamp platen bracket connected to the stem.

OBJECTS OF THE INVENTION.

The invention aims at avoiding the disadvantages of the known stamps and at providing a structurally simple hand stamp which is safe to operate.

- 5 Such stamp is also to facilitate utilization of stamp platens of different thicknesses and a simple way of mounting them.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION.

- 10 The stamp in accordance with the invention is characterized by the handle being connected to the housing of the stamp platen by means of a flexible folding bellows which preferably is integrally formed with the handle, and by a receptacle for the stamp impression member being releasably connected to the stamp platen by a snap connection.

- 15
- 20 The structure in accordance allows a user to mount the stamp impression member as a pre-fabricated pre-inked member the first time he is using the stamp and precisely to set its vertical position without any possibility of soiling his fingers, whereby the different positions or thickness of the impression member are compensated by the flexible folding bellows.

- 25 In accordance with a further embodiment of the invention, the receptacle, prior to mounting the impression member on the stamp platen, is stored in a transport case which frictionally fits into the opening of the housing frame. During first use of the stamp the stamp impression member receptacle may be connected to the stamp platen by the snap connection when the platen is moved downwardly, without the user soiling his fingers by touching the impression member.

- 30 Furthermore, the snap connection makes it possible, if necessary, subsequently to exchange the stamp impression member for a different stamp impression member, with the aid of a tool.

Preferably, the transport case of the impression member may be closed by a cap so that the impression member may be transported separate from the stamp. This is important for the protection of the impression member in supplemental shipments, replacement shipments or separate shipments. In accordance with a further embodiment of the invention, the interior of the impression member receptacle is divided into sections by separators whereby different stamp configurations are made possible by an exchange of individual parts.

10 DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS.

Further characteristics and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the ensuing description of preferred embodiments with reference to the drawings, in which:

15 Fig. 1 is a view in axial section of the stamp as supplied prior to its first use;

Fig. 2 is a section along line II - ii in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an axial section of the stamp in operation; and

20 Fig. 4 is a section through the stamp platen and shipping case.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT.

As shown in Figs. 1 to 3, the stamp is provided with a housing 1 forming a rectangular positioning frame 1'. The housing 1 is adapted to receive a stamp impression member 2 mounted on a platen 3 which is connected to an actuating handle 5 of the stamp by means of a stem 4. A flexible folding bellows 6 is arranged between the handle 5 and the housing 1. Preferably, the flexible bellows 6 is integrally formed with the handle 5 and 30 made by injection molding from plastic.

A threaded portion 4' of the stem 4 is threadedly received in a threaded

portion 5" of an internal axial sleeve 5' of the handle 5 and may be adjusted from the interior of the handle 5 for adjusting the length of stroke of the stamp. To this end, the handle 5 is provided with a removable cap 5". As shown in the drawing, the threaded portion 4' of the stem 4 is surrounded by 5 a helical spring 7 which biases the handle 5 upwardly with respect to the housing 1.

As may be further seen in Figs. 1 and 2, a tub-like transport case 8 for the impression member 2 seated in a receptacle 9 is frictionally secured by 10 snap elements 8', 1" in the opening of the housing 1. In this manner, the bottom of the stamp is sealed during transport or storage until it is used for the first time.

The impression member receptacle 9 is mounted on the platen by a 15 snap-fit connector. To this end, the platen 3 is pressed downwardly by the handle 5 and the stem 4 within the housing 1 frictionally positioned on the protective cover 8 until the receptacle 9 snaps into the platen 3 by means of snap-fit elements 3', 9'. The transport case 8 is removed from the housing 1, and the stamp is then in condition for use. Thus, the stamp impression 20 member 2 may be mounted without the user having to touch it.

As shown in Fig. 4, the transport case 8 in which the receptacle 9 is seated is covered by a protective cap 10 for supplying new stamp impression members 2.

25 The invention makes it possible to use differently shaped pre-inked impression members and to exchange them, if necessary with the aid of a tool, as a result of the snap-fit connection of their receptacles in the platen. In the receptacle 9, the stamp impression members may be divided into several 30 sections, to allow printing different patterns and/or colors. Figs. 1 to 3 show an impression member 2 which is divided into four sections by separators 9".

By removing the handle cap 5" the stamp may be placed upside down so that it may be inked or its impression member changed with the aid of a tool.

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What is claimed is:

5. (New) A hand stamp, comprising:

10 a handle;

5 a housing for forming a positioning frame opening;

15 a stamp platen biased into a predetermined idle position within the housing for selectively supporting a stamp impression member seated in a receptacle;

20 a flexible foldable bellows extending between the handle and the housing;

25 a stem in the bellows for connecting the handle to the stamp platen for selective movement thereof between the predetermined position and a stamping position; and

30 snap-fit connection means for releasably connecting the receptacle to the platen.

6. (New) The hand stamp of claim 5, wherein the flexible bellows is formed integrally with the handle.

7. (New) The hand stamp of claim 6, wherein the handle is provided with a cap removable for rendering the stem accessible.

8. (New) The hand stamp of claim 7, wherein the stem is provided with threaded means for changing the predetermined idle position of the stamp platen.

9. (New) The hand stamp of claim 5, wherein the receptacle is initially releasably retained in the positioning frame opening and adapted to be engaged by the stamp platen upon movement thereof towards the stamping position.

10. (New) The hand stamp of claim 9, wherein the receptacle is provided with at least one separator for dividing the impression member into a plurality of sections.

5 11. (New) The hand stamp of claim 5, wherein the receptacle is initially provided in a transport case having a removable cap facing the impression member.

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Hand Stamp

The invention relates to a hand stamp having a handle which is connected, and moveable relative, to a housing for a stamp platen bracket forming a support frame, by way of a shaft so that the stamp platen bracket

10 may be moved by a vertically adjustable stem and against the force of a spring from its idle position into a printing position, the handle being provided with a removable cap permitting access to the adjustable stem and the stamp impression member being arranged on the stamp platen by a receptacle.

15 In a stamp of this kind known from U.S. Patent 5,111,745 the effective length of the stem may be adjusted by a threaded portion of the shaft to adjust the stamp to stamp impression members of different heights. Similar structures are known from German laid-open specification OS 26 15 090 and U.S. Patent 5,377,599. In another variant known from British patent

20 2,226,276, there is provided a relatively complicated mechanism which may be actuated by the handle for adjusting the stamp housing.

The essential drawback of these relatively complex known structures resides in the fact that it is difficult to mount stamp platens of different

25 thicknesses since it is necessary to affix adhesively in the stamp platen bracket connected to the stem.

The invention aims at avoiding the disadvantages of the known stamps and at providing a structurally simple hand stamp which is safe to operate.

30 Such stamp is also to facilitate utilization of stamp platens of different thicknesses and a simple way of mounting them. The stamp in accordance with the invention is characterized by the handle being connected to the

housing of the stamp platen by means of a flexible folding bellows which preferably is integrally formed with the handle, and by a receptacle for the stamp impression member being releasably connected to the stamp platen by a snap connection.

5

The structure in accordance allows a user to mount the stamp impression member as a pre-fabricated pre-inked member the first time he is using the stamp and precisely to set its vertical position without any possibility of soiling his fingers, whereby the different positions or thickness of the 10 impression member are compensated by the flexible folding bellows.

In accordance with a further embodiment of the invention, the receptacle, prior to mounting the impression member on the stamp platen, is stored in a transport case which frictionally fits into the opening of the housing 15 frame. During first use of the stamp the stamp impression member receptacle may be connected to the stamp platen by the snap connection when the platen is moved downwardly, without the user soiling his fingers by touching the impression member.

20 Furthermore, the snap connection makes it possible, if necessary, subsequently to exchange the stamp impression member for a different stamp impression member, with the aid of a tool.

25 Preferably, the transport case of the impression member may be closed by a cap so that the impression member may be transported separate from the stamp. This is important for the protection of the impression member in supplemental shipments, replacement shipments or separate shipments. In accordance with a further embodiment of the invention, the interior of the impression member receptacle is divided into sections by 30 separators whereby different stamp configurations are made possible by an exchange of individual parts.

Further characteristics and advantages of the invention will become apparent from the ensuing description of preferred embodiments with reference to the drawings, in which:

5 Fig. 1 is a view in axial section of the stamp as supplied prior to its first use;

Fig. 2 is a section along line II - II in Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 is an axial section of the stamp in operation; and

Fig. 4 is a section through the stamp platen and shipping case.

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As shown in Figs. 1 to 3, the stamp is provided with a housing 1 forming a rectangular positioning frame 1'. The housing 1 is adapted to receive a stamp impression member 2 mounted on a platen 3 which is connected to an actuating handle 5 of the stamp by means of a stem 4. A flexible folding bellows 6 is arranged between the handle 5 and the housing 1. Preferably, the flexible bellows 6 is integrally formed with the handle 5 and made by injection molding from plastic.

20 A threaded portion 4' of the stem 4 is threadedly received in a threaded portion 5" of an internal axial sleeve 5' of the handle 5 and may be adjusted from the interior of the handle 5 for adjusting the length of stroke of the stamp. To this end, the handle 5 is provided with a removable cap 5"". As shown in the drawing, the threaded portion 4' of the stem 4 is surrounded by a helical spring 7 which biases the handle 5 upwardly with respect to the 25 housing 1.

30 As may be further seen in Figs. 1 and 2, a tub-like transport case 8 for the impression member 2 seated in a receptacle 9 is frictionally secured by snap elements 8', 1" in the opening of the housing 1. In this manner, the bottom of the stamp is sealed during transport or storage until it is used for the first time.

The impression member receptacle 9 is mounted on the platen by a snap-fit connector. To this end, the platen 3 is pressed downwardly by the handle 5 and the stem 4 within the housing 1 frictionally positioned on the protective cover 8 until the receptacle 9 snaps into the platen 3 by means of 5 snap-fit elements 3', 9'. The transport case 8 is removed from the housing 1, and the stamp is then in condition for use. Thus, the stamp impression member 2 may be mounted without the user having to touch it.

As shown in Fig. 4, the transport case 8 in which the receptacle 9 is 10 seated is covered by a protective cap 10 for supplying new stamp impression members 2.

The invention makes it possible to use differently shaped pre-inked impression members and to exchange them, if necessary with the aid of a 15 tool, as a result of the snap-fit connection of their receptacles in the platen. In the receptacle 9, the stamp impression members may be divided into several sections, to allow printing different patterns and/or colors. Figs. 1 to 3 show an impression member 2 which is divided into four sections by separators 9".

20 By removing the handle cap 5" the stamp may be placed upside down so that it may be inked or its impression member changed with the aid of a tool.

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Patent Claims:

1. Hand stamp provided with a handle (5) connected by a shaft (4") to a stamp platen (3) housing (1) forming a positioning frame (1') for movement relative thereto for moving the stamp platen by a vertically adjustable stem against the force of a spring from an idle position to a printing position, the handle (5) being provided with a removable cap (5'') permitting access to the adjustable stem (4) and the impression member (2) being arranged on the stamp platen (3) by a receptacle (9), characterized by the fact that the handle (5) is connected to the housing (1) of the stamp platen (3) by a flexible folding bellows (6) preferably integrally formed with the handle (5) and that the receptacle (9) for the impression member (2) is releasably connected to the stamp platen (2) by a snap-fit connection (3', 9').
15
2. Hand stamp according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the impression member receptacle (9), prior to mounting the impression member (2) on the stamp platen (3) is stored in a transport case (8) which fits frictionally into the opening of the positioning frame (1).
20
3. Hand stamp according to claim 1, characterized by the fact that the transport case (8) of the impression member (2) is enclosable by a cap (10) to allow transport of the impression member separate from the stamp.
- 25 4. Hand stamp according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterized by the fact that the interior of the impression member receptacle (9) is divided into sections by separators (9").

30

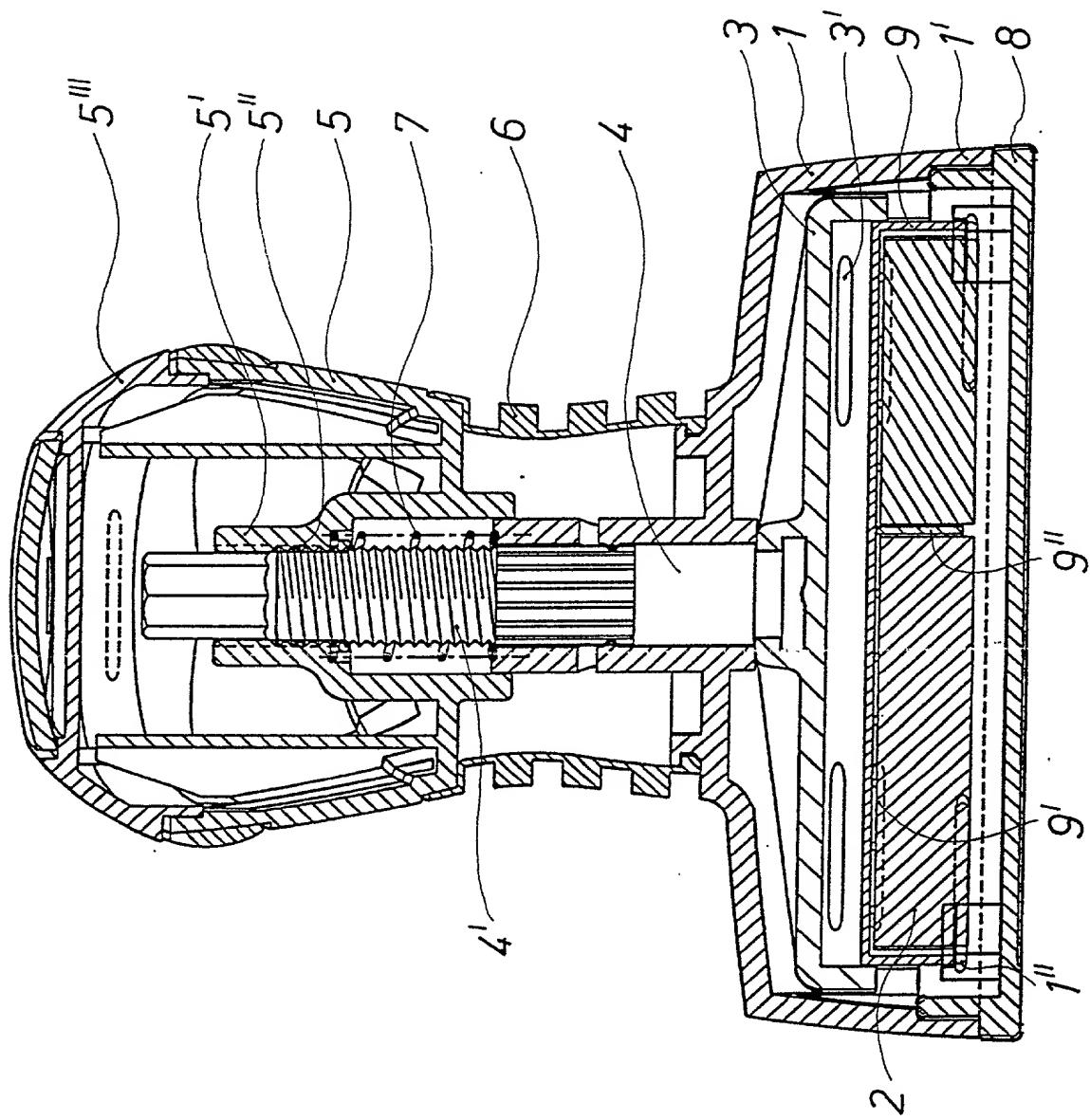
Hand Stamp

Abstract

5 Hand stamp provided with a handle (5) which is connected by a shaft (6) to a positioning-frame forming housing (1) for a stamp platen (3) and moveable relative thereto for moving the stamp platen by a height-wise adjustable stem (4) against the force of a spring from an idle position to a printing position, the handle being connected to the housing of the stamp

10 platen by a flexible folding bellows (6) and provided with a removable cap (5'') for allowing access to the adjustable stem, and a receptacle (9) of the stamp impression member (2) being releasably connected to the stamp platen by a snap-fit connection.

Fig. 1



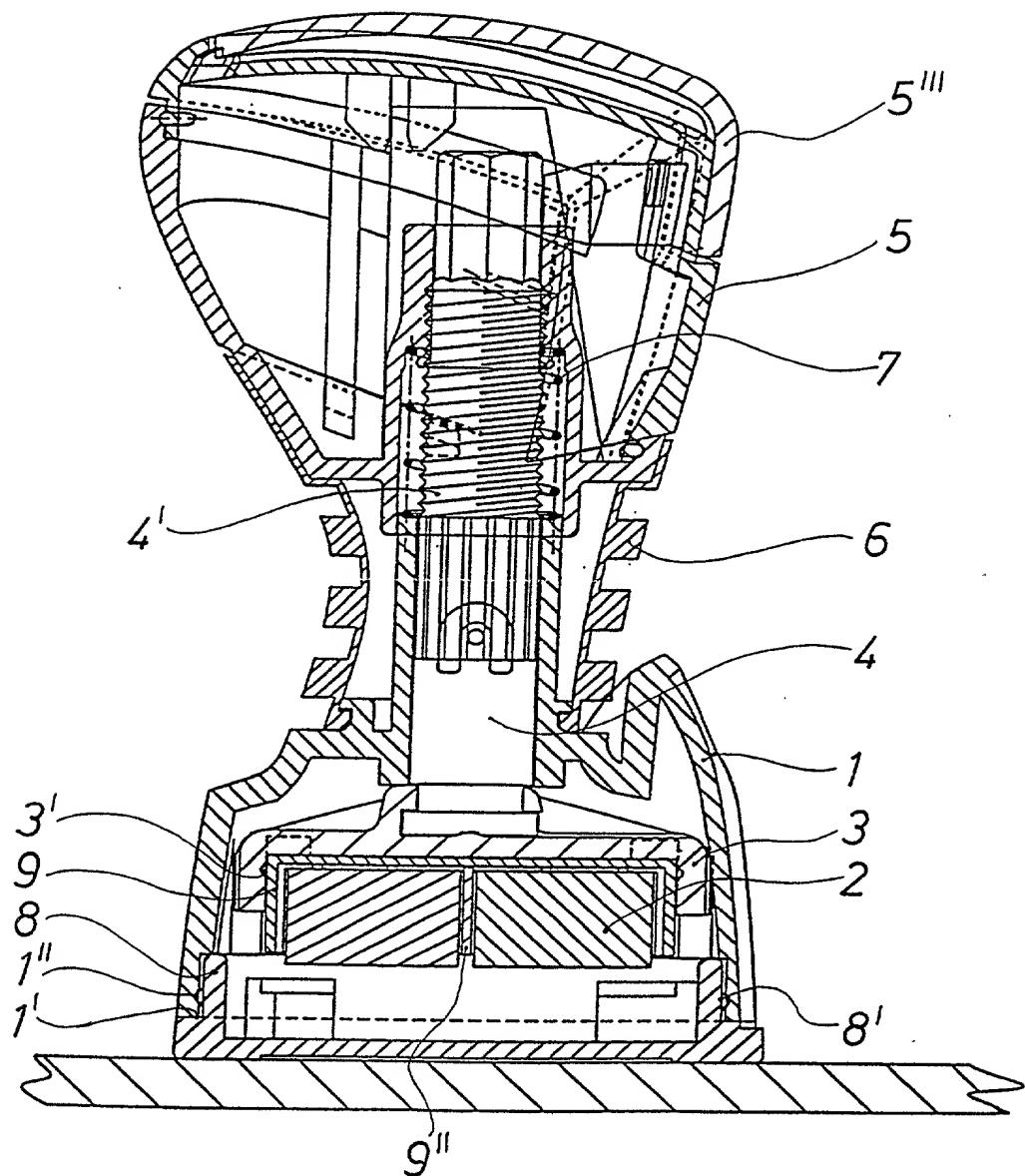
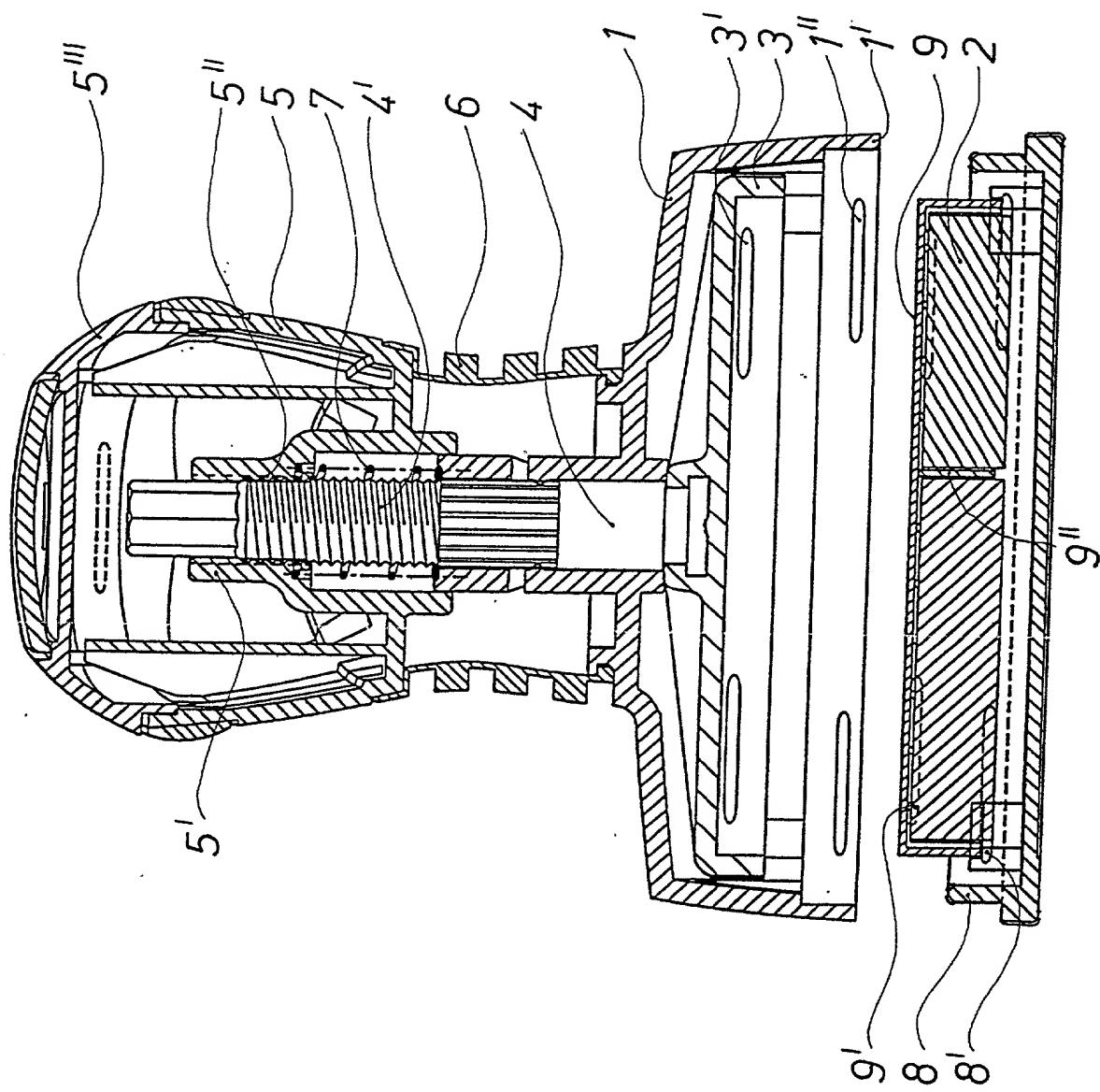


Fig. 2

Fig. 3



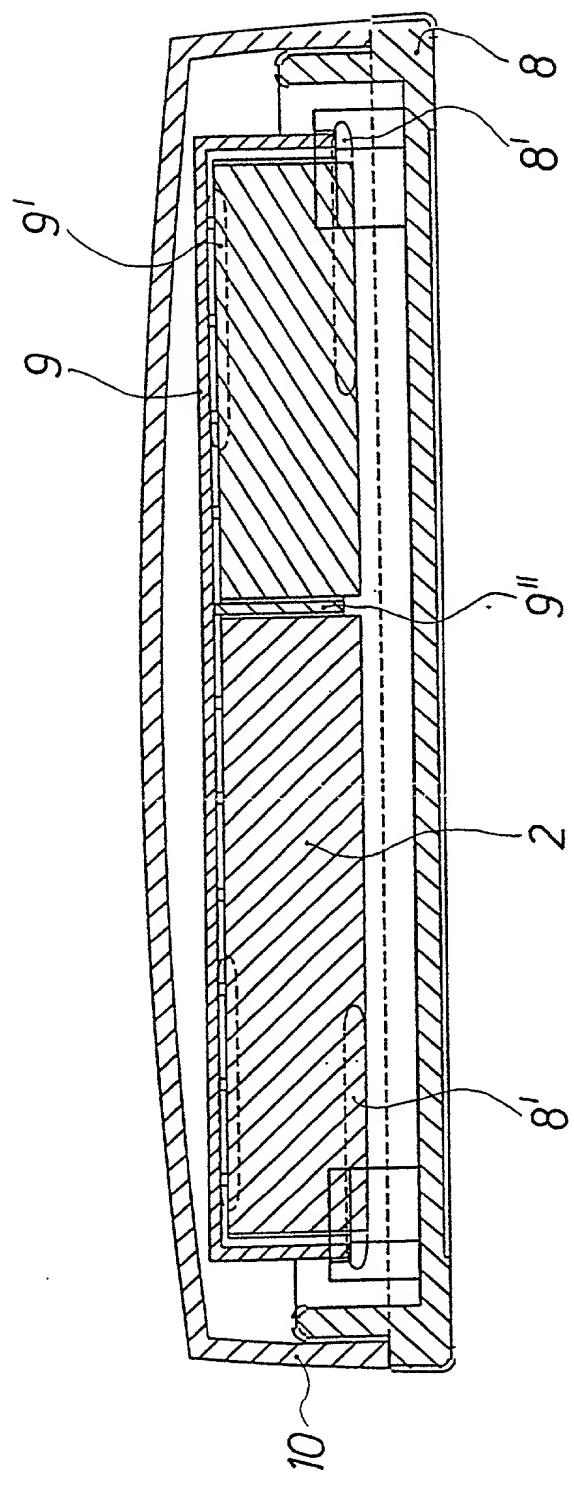
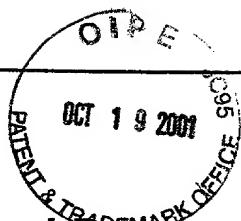


Fig. 4

Docket No.
010475

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

Hand Stamp

the specification of which

(check one)

is attached hereto.

was filed on 24 September 2001 as United States Application No. or PCT International Application Number 09/937,234

and was amended on _____
(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, Section 119(a)-(d) or Section 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate, or Section 365(a) of any PCT International application which designated at least one country other than the United States, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate or PCT International application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.

Prior Foreign Application(s)

Priority Not Claimed

<u>A 518/99</u> (Number)	<u>Austria</u> (Country)	<u>22 March 1999</u> (Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u></u> (Number)	<u></u> (Country)	<u></u> (Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<u></u> (Number)	<u></u> (Country)	<u></u> (Day/Month/Year Filed)	<input type="checkbox"/>

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. Section 119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

N/A

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U. S. C. Section 120 of any United States application(s), or Section 365(c) of any PCT International application designating the United States, listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States or PCT International application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. Section 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the United States Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, C. F. R., Section 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT International filing date of this application:

PCT/AT00/00063

(Application Serial No.)

20 March 2000

(Filing Date)

pending

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

(Application Serial No.)

(Filing Date)

(Status)

(patented, pending, abandoned)

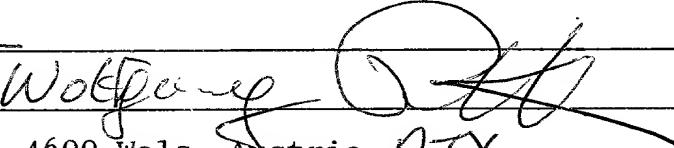
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

Karl Hormann, Esq., Registration No.: 26,470

Send Correspondence to: Law Offices of Karl Hormann
86 Sparks Street
Cambridge, MA 02138-2216

Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)
Mr Hormann @ (617)-491-8867

Full name of sole or first inventor <u>PICHLER, Wolfgang</u>	Sole or first inventor's signature 	Date <u>11.9.2001</u>
Residence <u>Schorerstrasse 52, A-4600 Wels, Austria ATX</u>	11 Sep 2001	
Citizenship <u>Austrian</u>		
Post Office Address <u>same as residence</u>		

Full name of second inventor, if any <u>N/A</u>	Second inventor's signature	Date
Residence		
Citizenship		
Post Office Address		

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27 (c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN				Docket No. 010475
Serial No. PCT/AT00/00063	Filing Date 20 March 2000	Patent No.	Issue Date	
<p>Applicant/ PICHLER, Wolfgang Patentee:</p> <p>Invention: Hand Stamp</p>				
<p>I hereby declare that I am:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> the owner of the small business concern identified below; <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:</p>				
<p>NAME OF CONCERN: Trodat GmbH</p> <p>ADDRESS OF CONCERN: Linzer Strasse 156, A-4600 Wels, Austria</p>				
<p>I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 37 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.</p>				
<p>I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the above identified invention described in:</p>				
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> the specification filed herewith with title as listed above. <input type="checkbox"/> the application identified above. <input type="checkbox"/> the patent identified above.</p>				
<p>If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed on the next page and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).</p>				

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

no such person, concern or organization exists.
 each such person, concern or organization is listed below.

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Individual Small Business Concern Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Individual Small Business Concern Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Individual Small Business Concern Nonprofit Organization

FULL NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Individual Small Business Concern Nonprofit Organization

Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

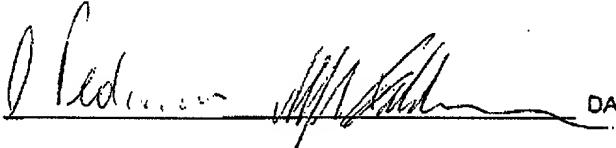
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING: Michael Peduzzi Alfred Feldbauer

TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING Director Director

OTHER THAN OWNER: Trodat GmbH, Linzer Straße 156, A-4600 Wels

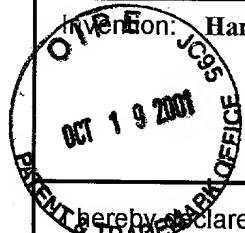
ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING:

SIGNATURE: 

DATE: 11.09.2001

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY
STATUS (37 CFR 1.9(f) AND 1.27 (c)) - SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN**

Docket No.
010475

Serial No. 09/937,234	Filing Date 24 September 2001	Patent No.	Issue Date
Applicant/ PICHLER, Wolfgang Patentee:			
 Invention: Hand Stamp JC95 19 2001 PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE			

I hereby declare that I am:

the owner of the small business concern identified below:
 an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN: **Trodat GmbH.**

ADDRESS OF CONCERN: **Linzer Strasse 156, A-4600 Wels, Austria**

I hereby declare that the above-identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 37 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the above identified invention described in:

the specification filed herewith with title as listed above.
 the application identified above.
 the patent identified above.

If the rights held by the above-identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed on the next page and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which I have assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING:

Michael Peduzzi

Andreas Hofer

TITLE OF PERSON SIGNING

Director

Director

OTHER THAN OWNER:

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING: Linzer Straße 156, A-4600 Wels

SIGNATURE:

DATE: 10/03/2001